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extracts, cangzhu extracts, *Chrysanthellum indicum* extracts, extracts from plants of the genus *Armeniacea*, *Atractylodis*, *Platicodon*, *Sinommenum*, *Pharbitidis* or *Flemingia*, *Coleus* extracts, extracts of *C. forskohlii*, extracts of *C. blumei*, extracts of *C. esquirolii*, extracts of *C. scutellaroides*, extracts of *C. xanthanthus*, extracts of *C. barbatus*, extracts of *Coleus barbatus* root comprising 60% of forskolin, *Ballota* extracts, extracts of *Guioa*, extracts of *Davallia*, extracts of *Terminalia*, extracts of *Barringtonia*, extracts of *Trema*, extracts of *Antirobia*, algal extracts, red alga (*Gelidium cartilagineum*) extract, *Laminaria digitata* extract; protamines and their derivatives; flavonoids, ruscogenins, esculosides, the aescine extracted from horse chestnut, nicotimates, hesperidin methyl chalcone, essential oils of lavender or rosemary, the disodium salt of rutinyl sulphate; *Centella asiatica* and *Siegesbeckia* extracts and yeast extracts of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, silicon, amadorine, and an ivy extract.--

SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

Support for the amendments to claims 1, 2, 3, 20 and 21 can be found, *inter alia*, at page 2, line 21 through page 3, line 9. Support for new claims 27-29 can be found, *inter alia*, in example 7. Support for new claim 30 can be found, *inter alia*, at page 13, lines 17 through page 15, line 31.

Claims 1-3, 11-22 and 24-30 are currently pending.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The Office Action rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not described in the specification. Specifically, the Office Action indicated that the terms “lipolytic,” “slimming,” “firming,” “antiglycant” and/or

“vasoprotective” are not known in the art and the specification does not define them. In view of the following comments, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration thereof.

“Slimming” active principles are defined as agents “known per se as exhibiting a more or less marked activity in the field of combating adiposity and/or cellulite and/or as slimming agents for the face.” (Page 13, lines 21-24). Page 13, line 25 through page 15, line 12 provide numerous examples of acceptable slimming active principles. The term “lipolytic” has been deleted from claim 21 as this term is encompassed within the broader phrase “slimming active principle” which remains in the claim. (See, page 14, lines 12-14).

“Firming” active principles are defined as agents “which stimulate the synthesis of collagen.” (Page 15, lines 25-26). Page 15, lines 24-25 provide examples of acceptable firming active principles.

“Antiglycant” active principles are defined as agents “which prevent sugar from attaching to collagen fibers.” (Page 15, lines 23-24). Page 15, line 26 provides examples of acceptable antiglycant active principles.

“Vasoprotective” active principles are defined as agents “which act on the microcirculation.” (Page 15, line 19). Page 15, lines 20-22 provide examples of acceptable vasoprotective active principles.

Thus, all of the terms and phrases in claim 21 are known in the art and defined in the specification.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is improper and should be withdrawn. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 30, which depends from claim 21

and identifies specific active principles, is also in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§102 AND 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 11-21 and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by WO 96/03155 (“Sebag”). The Office Action also rejected claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over (1) U.S. patent 6,011,126 (“Dubief”) in view of Sebag (claims 1-3, 11-19, 21 and 24-26); and (2) Sebag in view of U.S. patent 4,963,353 (“Sidhu”) (claims 1-3, 11-22 and 24-26). In view of the following comments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Sebag discloses cleansing and conditioning compositions, not compositions for reducing or removing signs of cutaneous aging, tightening skin or removing wrinkles as claimed. In particular, Sebag describes his invention as follows:

The compositions thus prepared have good detergent and foaming properties.

When they are applied to the hair, in addition to their washing properties, these compositions have hair conditioning properties, i.e., treated hair is shiny, disentangles easily and feels soft.

When they are applied to the skin, these compositions give keratin substances, in particular the hair, great softness.

(Col. 1, lines 60-67 of U.S. patent 6,162,423, the U.S. equivalent to Sebag). Sebag instructs that his invention, when used in the form of shower gels “for washing and conditioning the hair and the skin,” should be “applied to wet skin and hair and are rinsed off after application.” (Col. 17, lines 30-33 of the ‘423 patent). Thus, Sebag discloses that when his compositions are applied to skin, (1) they should be rinsed off after application; and (2) they provide skin with softness.

Because Sebag teaches that his compositions should be rinsed off shortly after application and, thus, are only on skin briefly, no anti-aging (including anti-wrinkle) and/or tightening effect can be obtained, primarily because no film is formed on the skin. Because no such effects are obtained, no reduction or removal of signs of aging (including wrinkles) can occur. Thus, Sebag cannot teach or suggest the claimed invention which requires that effective amounts of the claimed polymer be applied to skin to achieve the claimed anti-aging or skin-tightening results.

not
claim
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Sebag's suggestion that his compositions can be used to "condition" skin, which focuses on providing skin with "softness," does not change this fact. Conditioning skin or making it softer does not imply or suggest that cutaneous signs of aging, particularly wrinkles, can be reduced or removed. Soft skin can be wrinkled.

Dubief does not compensate for Sebag's deficiencies. The Office Action admits that Dubief "fails to teach [his] compositions as antiaging." Instead, Dubief discloses that his compositions are useful for treating and styling hair. Thus, neither Sebag nor Dubief relates to achieving anti-aging skin effects using effective amounts of the claimed polymers. Accordingly, their combination cannot yield the presently claimed invention.

Similarly, Sidhu fails to compensate for Sebag's deficiencies. Sidhu neither teaches nor suggests applying effective amounts of the claimed polymers to skin to achieve the claimed anti-aging or skin-tightening results. Sidhu is cited merely for its disclosure relating to biological extracts. Thus, neither Sidhu nor Sebag relates to achieving anti-aging effects using effective amounts of the claimed polymers. Accordingly, their combination does not result in the claimed invention.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the pending rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 are improper and should be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

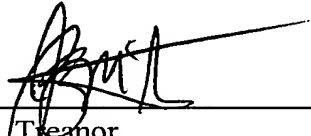
Respectfully submitted,

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1. (Twice Amended) A method for reducing or removing the signs of cutaneous aging, comprising applying onto skin a composition comprising a signs of cutaneous aging reducing or removing effective amount of at least one grafted silicone polymer comprising a polysiloxane portion and a portion comprising a non-silicone organic chain, one of the two portions constituting a main chain of the polymer and the other being grafted to the main chain, wherein the grafted silicone polymer is a polymer with a polysiloxane backbone grafted by at least one non-silicone organic monomer.

2. (Twice Amended) A method of tightening the skin comprising applying onto skin a composition comprising a skin-tightening effective amount of at least one grafted silicone polymer comprising a polysiloxane portion and a portion comprising a non-silicone organic chain, one of the two portions constituting a main chain of the polymer and the other being grafted to the main chain, wherein the grafted silicone polymer is a polymer with a polysiloxane backbone grafted by at least one non-silicone organic monomer.

3. (Twice Amended) A method for removing wrinkles comprising applying [apply] onto skin a composition comprising a wrinkle-removing effective amount of at least one grafted silicone polymer comprising a polysiloxane portion and a portion comprising a non-silicone organic chain, one of the two portions constituting a main chain of the polymer and the other being grafted to the main chain, wherein the grafted silicone polymer is a polymer with a polysiloxane backbone grafted by at least one non-silicone organic monomer.

20. (Amended) A composition [Composition] comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium, a skin-tightening effective amount of at least one grafted silicone polymer comprising a polysiloxane portion and a portion [composed of] comprising a non-silicone organic chain, one of the two portions constituting the main chain of the polymer and the other being grafted to the said main chain and one or more plant proteins.

21. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium, a skin-tightening effective amount of at least one grafted silicone polymer comprising a polysiloxane portion and a portion [composed of] comprising a non-silicone organic chain, one of the two portions constituting the main chain of the polymer and the other being grafted to the said main chain and one or more [lipolytic,] slimming, firming, antiglycant and/or vasoprotective compounds.

Claims 27-30 (New)